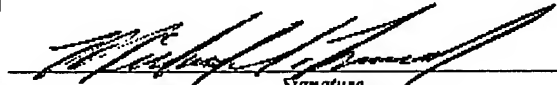


OCT 25 2007

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|--|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| AMENDMENT TRANSMITTAL LETTER (Large Entity) | | | | Docket No. 114141-017 | |
| Applicant(s): S. Akashi et al. | | | | | |
| Application No. 10/803,413 | Filing Date March 17, 2007 | Examiner Tania Abraham | Customer No. 43793 | Group Art Unit 3636 | Confirmation No. 5562 |
| Invention: FASTENER | | | | | |
| COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS: | | | | | |
| Transmitted herewith is an amendment in the above-identified application. The fee has been calculated and is transmitted as shown below. | | | | | |
| CLAIMS AS AMENDED | | | | | |
| | CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT | HIGHEST # PREV. PAID FOR | NUMBER EXTRA CLAIMS PRESENT | RATE | ADDITIONAL FEE |
| TOTAL CLAIMS | 15 - | 21 = | 0 | x \$50.00 | \$0.00 |
| INDEP. CLAIMS | 1 - | 3 = | 0 | x \$210.00 | \$0.00 |
| Multiple Dependent Claims (check if applicable) <input type="checkbox"/> | | | | | \$0.00 |
| TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEE FOR THIS AMENDMENT | | | | | \$0.00 |
| <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"><div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No additional fee is required for amendment. <input type="checkbox"/> Please charge Deposit Account No. _____ in the amount of _____ <input type="checkbox"/> A check in the amount of _____ to cover the filing fee is enclosed. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The Director is hereby authorized to charge payment of the following fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account 50-3189 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Any additional filing fees required under 37 C.F.R. 1.16. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR 1.17. <input type="checkbox"/> Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038.</div><div>WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.</div></div> | | | | | |
|  Signature | | | Dated: October 25, 2007 | | |
| Michael S. Leonard, Reg. No. 37,557 Everest Intellectual Property Law Group P.O. Box 708 Northbrook, IL 60065 Phone: 847-272-3400 Fax: 847-272-3417 | | | <div>I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to "Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450" [37 CFR 1.8(a)] on _____</div> <div style="text-align: center;">(Date)</div> <div style="text-align: center; margin-top: 20px;">_____ Signature of Person Mailing Correspondence</div> <div style="text-align: center; margin-top: 10px;">_____ Typed or Printed Name of Person Mailing Correspondence</div> | | |
| CC: | | | | | |

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Patent Application Of:

S. Akashi et al.

For: FASTENER

Serial No.: 10/083,413

Filed: March 17, 2004

Examiner: Tania Abraham

Art Unit: 3636

Conf. No.: 5562

Atty Dkt. No.: 114141-017

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OCT 25 2007CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION BY FACSIMILE

VIA FACSIMILE TO (571) 273-8300

Mail Stop Amendment

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

I hereby certify that the following documents are being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office (Fax No. 571-273-8300) on October 25, 2007.


1. Amendment Transmittal (1 pg.); and
2. Response to Office Action (9 pgs.).

Respectfully submitted,

EVEREST INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW GROUP

Date: October 25, 2007

BY


Michael S. Leonard, Reg. No. 37,557

P.O. Box 708

Northbrook, IL 60065

Phone: (847) 272-3400

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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OCT 25 2007

In Re Patent Application of:
S. Akashi et al.

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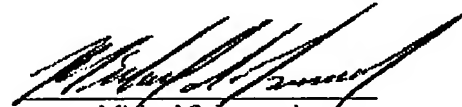
Art Unit: 3636

Conf. No.: 5562

Atty Dkt. No.: 114141-017

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being
facsimile transmitted to the Patent and Trademark
Office Fax No. (571) 273-8300 on October 25,
2007.


Michael S. LeonardRESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This Response is submitted in response to the non-final Office Action mailed July 25, 2007. Applicants request amendment, reconsideration and allowance of the patent application.

Applicants invite the Examiner to call Applicants' Representative to discuss any issues with this application.

Listing of Claims begins on page 2 of this Response.

Remarks begin on page 5 of this Response.